WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1   1.   A seismometer comprising:

2   a hydrodynamically efficient shaped body containing a seismic device;

3   a propulsion unit located on said body; and

4   a control unit for directional control of said propulsion unit.

1   2.   The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising:

2   a navigation unit for directing the control unit to a desired location on the

3   ocean bottom.

1   3.   The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said seismic device comprises a seismic sensor.

1   4.   The apparatus of claim 3, wherein said apparatus further comprises a storage device

2   for storing seismic data sensed by said seismic sensor.

1   5.   The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said control unit receives navigation commands

2   from a navigation system.

1   6.   The apparatus of claim 5 wherein the control unit communicates an identifier code to

2   the navigation system enabling the navigation system to determine location of the

3   apparatus.

1   7.   The apparatus of claim 6 wherein the navigation system sends a responsive

2   directional command to the apparatus based on the current location and the desired

3   location.

1   8.   The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the propulsion system acts to couple the apparatus

2   to the ocean floor.

1   9.   The apparatus of claim wherein the navigation system comprises a flight control

2   system for managing a plurality of said apparatuses during navigation.

1   10.   The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the flight control system is located on a surface

2   support vessel.

1   11.   A method for deploying a seismometer comprising the steps for:

2   placing a hydrodynamically efficient shaped body containing a seismic device

3   into a fluid such as seawater above an ocean bottom;

4   energizing a propulsion unit located on said body to propel the seismometer

5   through the fluid; and

6   receiving a command in propulsion unit from a control unit for directional

7   control of said propulsion unit.

1   12.   The method of claim 11 further comprising the step for:

2   receiving a command from a navigation system for directing the control unit

3   to control the propulsion unit to move a desired location on the ocean bottom.

1   13.   The method of claim 1 wherein said seismic device comprises a seismic sensor.

1   14.   The method of claim 3, wherein said method further comprises the step for:

2   storing seismic data sensed by said seismic sensor in a storage device on said

3   body.

1   15.   The method of claim 11, further comprising the step for:

2   receiving navigation commands from a navigation system.

1   16.   The method of claim 15 further comprising the step for:

2   communicating an identifier code from the control unit to the navigation

3   system enabling the navigation system to determine the location of the body.

1   17.   The method of claim 16 further comprising the step for:

2   sends a responsive directional command from the navigation system to the

3   control unit based on the current location of the body and the desired location.

1   18.   The method of claim 11 further comprising the step for:

2   coupling the body to the ocean floor via said propulsion system.

1   19.   The method of claim 11 further comprising the step for:

2   controlling the flight path for a plurality of bodies.

1   20.   The method of claim 19 wherein the flight control system is located on a surface

2   support vessel.